

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the abstract with the following:

A system and method for facilitating multiplayer online gaming is disclosed. The system 100 includes a client gaming program 108 and a gaming layered service provider (“LSP”) 114, which are stored and operate on a client computer terminal 120. The client gaming program 108 detects when certain individuals identified by a user are playing online games and notifies the user of the individuals currently playing games online and the games that the individuals are playing. The client gaming program 108 allows the user to easily join the games in progress. The gaming program 108 and LSP 114 also monitor and detect games that are running on the terminal 120 and the connection status of the games. The gaming program 108 communicates data regarding the user, games and connection status over the computer network for receipt by selected individuals.

Please replace the first full paragraph of page 9 of the specification (lines 8-20), with the paragraph below:

Figure 2 illustrates one embodiment of a method 200 that an application, which may be running in the client gaming program 108, may perform[[]] to determine which games are presently running on a client computer 120. The method begins at step 202, where the application determines which system processes have terminated since the last iteration of the method 200. In step 204, the application looks at the first of the terminated processes and compares it to a current list of running games or the “running game set.” If the process is not in the running game set, the application proceeds to step 206 and determines whether there are additional terminated system processes. If there are no additional terminated system processes, the application proceeds to step 212. Otherwise, the application repeats step 204. If the application determines in step 204 that the system process is in the running game set, the application proceeds to step 208. In step 208, the application notifies the client gaming program 108 that the game associated with the process is no longer active, and in step 210, the client gaming program 108 removes the process from the running game set.